

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY JOBS DEPARTMENT GOES ON THE ROAD WITH EMPLOYERS

By: Nick Longo

Grassy median strips in the middle of downtown streets usually don't serve much purpose, but on a recent sunny and breezy spring day in Ontario, the median between the north and southbound lanes of Euclid Avenue took on a festive atmosphere. Rows of white vinyl booths housed local employers rather than carnival games because, unlike other fairs that come to town, this one was a Job Fair.

The San Bernardino County Jobs and Employment Services Department, the City of Ontario, and the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino sponsored the large event. Mervyn's Community Project, another major sponsor of the Fair, brought their bright yellow big rig truck that could be seen from blocks away. This custom 18-wheeler is a fully functioning clothing store with a mission to provide free interview clothes to job seekers who might otherwise be unable to compete in the job market. Ontario Mayor Gary Ovitt was on hand to help celebrate with individuals who received a set of new clothes.

Thirty employers brought a full range of jobs to the event from entry-level to professional positions, proving there are still plenty of good jobs available in San Bernardino County. "There's no denying that unemployment is on the rise across the nation, but we have not seen the impact in our office," said Shirley Patrick, a staffing specialist for York Employment Services referring to the volume of job orders that continue to flood in from local companies looking for employees. Mark Kantor, The Home Depot's Distribution Center manager, had a similar view that the Inland Empire's job market is still strong. "I have 25 good paying jobs available at the Distribution Center," said Kantor who oversees a warehouse staff of 300 people in Chino.

Different employers participate at each Job Fair, so a job seeker can achieve the best results by attending all the Job Fairs in this series.

The next Job Fair will be held in downtown San Bernardino on April 24, 2003 at the Court Street Square at the corner of Court and E Street. The final Job Fair will be on April 25, 2003 at the Chino Civic Center at 13220 Central Avenue. Both Job Fairs are open from 10AM to 2PM. More information is available on Job Fairs and other services provided by the Jobs and Employment Services Department by dialing their hot line at 1.800.451. JOBS.

Here is a list of just a few of the employers that will be at the upcoming Job Fairs.

Court Street Square Job Fair April 24, 2003

- AFLAC
- CR England
- Health Care Innovations, Inc
- Home Instead Senior Care
- Intercon Security
- JZ's Party Charm
- Keystone Education & Youth Services
- McDonald's
- Pinnacle Medical Management
- Primerica Financial Services
- State Farm Insurance
- Transit Care
- University of California Riverside
- USDA Forestry Service
- Washington Mutual Bank
- Western Southern

Chino Civic Center Job Fair April 25, 2003

- Arrow Staffing Services
- County of San Bernardino In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority
- EMQ Children & Family Services
- Intercon Security
- International Mortgage
- Macy's West
- McDonald's
- Primerica
- University of Phoenix
- Wells Fargo Bank
- Western Southern